



216926US-2-PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
YASUJI HIRAMATSU ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: 10/009,174 :
FILED: DECEMBER 10, 2001 :
FOR: CERAMIC SUBSTRATE :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 3 as follows:

3. (Amended) The ceramic substrate according to claim 1,
wherein the thickness of said ceramic substrate is over 1.5 mm.

Please add new Claim 4 as follows:

4. (New) The ceramic substrate according to claim 2,
wherein the thickness of said ceramic substrate is over 1.5 mm.

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ABSTRACT

A ceramic substrate making it possible to control its heating face into even temperature even if through holes into which lifter pins, supporting pins, and the like will be inserted are made. The ceramic substrate includes a heating element composed of one or more circuit(s) on a surface thereof or inside thereof. A through hole is made in the ceramic substrate, and the heating element circuit is formed in the range of 20 mm or less from the inner wall of the through hole.

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

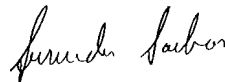
By the present Preliminary Amendment the multiple dependency in Claim 3 has been cancelled, and subject matter of that cancelled multiple dependency is now set forth in new dependent Claim 4.

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The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 3 as follows:

--3. (Amended) The ceramic substrate according to claim 1 [or 2],
wherein the thickness of said ceramic substrate is over 1.5 mm.--

Claim 4 (New).

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract on page 31 as follows:

--ABSTRACT

[An objective of the present invention is to provide a] A ceramic substrate making it possible to control its heating face into even temperature even if through holes into which lifter pins, supporting pins, and the like will be inserted are made. The [present invention is a] ceramic substrate [having:] includes a heating element composed of one or more circuit(s) on a surface thereof or inside thereof[; and]. [a] A through hole [being] is made in the ceramic substrate, [wherein] and the heating element circuit is formed in the range of 20 mm or less from the inner wall of the through hole.--